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R 052105Z MAY 06
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4421
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 5513
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 1340
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 5318
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0898
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MAY LIMA 1825
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 5112
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 5520
RUEHQD/AMEMBASSY QUITO 0727
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC
RHMFSS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 001024

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/05/2016

TAGS: [TBIO](#) [KFLU](#) [KPAO](#) [SENV](#) [AR](#)

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR AVIAN FLU

REF: STATE 69310

Classified By: Ambassador Lino Gutierrez, Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

¶1. (C) DCM, accompanied by POLCOUNS and POLOFF, met May 5 with the MFA's Under Secretary for Political Affairs, Luis Cappagli. Among the issues they discussed were reftel points regarding contingency planning for avian flu. DCM explained the steps being taken by U.S. authorities domestically and abroad, and inquired as to the state of Argentine planning. (In a meeting later that day, Ambassador provided the same information to Deputy Foreign Minister Roberto Garcia Moritan.)

¶2. (C) Cappagli said that the GOA believes it is well prepared for any potential outbreak. He said the Argentine Ministry of Health had been tracking the spread of the disease and was drawing up plans in the event that the disease spreads to the Western Hemisphere. The GOA has developed an 89-page pandemic contingency plan based on PAHO and U.S. practices. The DCM offered the possibility of bringing a U.S. disease control expert to consult with GOA officials, an offer which interested Cappagli.

GUTIERREZ